

State Injury Indicators



Percentage of High School Students Who Drove a Car or Other Vehicle When They Had Been Drinking Alcohol

Category:	Motor Vehicle Indicators
Demographic Group:	Students in grades 9–12.
Numerator:	Respondents in grades 9–12 who reported driving a car or other vehicle when they had been drinking alcohol in the past 30 days.
Denominator:	Total respondents in grades 9–12.
Measures of Frequency:	Annual prevalence.
Period for Case Definition:	Previous 30 days.
Background:	At all levels of blood alcohol concentration, the risk of being involved in a crash is greater for young people than for older people.* In 2005, 16% of drivers ages 16 to 20 who died in motor vehicle crashes had been drinking alcohol.**
Limitations of Indicator:	Self-reported data only represents a small portion of the overall burden of injury. An evaluation of risk for these injuries does not present a complete picture of all injuries.
Data Resources:	Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS).
Limitations of Data Resources:	As with all self-reported sample surveys, YRBSS data might be subject to systematic error resulting from noncoverage (e.g., no participation by certain schools), nonresponse (e.g., refusal to participate in the survey or to answer specific questions), or measurement (e.g., social desirability or recall bias).
Healthy People 2010 Objectives:	15-15: Reduce deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes 15-16: Reduce pedestrian deaths on public roads 26-1: Reduce deaths and injuries caused by alcohol- and drug-related motor vehicle crashes
CDC's Health Protection Goals:	Healthy People in Every Stage of Life: Achieve Healthy Independence Healthy People in Healthy Places: Healthy Communities Healthy People in Healthy Places: Healthy Travel and Recreation

*Zador PL, Krawchuk SA, Voas RB. Alcohol-related relative risk of driver fatalities and driver involvement in fatal crashes in relation to driver age and gender: an update using 1996 data. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol* 2000;61:387-95. **Dept of Transportation (US), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Traffic safety facts 2005: alcohol. Washington (DC): NHTSA; 2006 [cited 2006 Oct 3]. Available from URL: <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/pdf/nrd-30/NCSA/TSF2005/AlcoholTSF05.pdf>.